

Community Enhancement Objective. The Village Center should provide a location for public activities and ceremonies, and a gathering place for residents to enjoy their downtown environment.

3.5.4 Open Space Policy. The Village Center shall contain a prominent public open space area, such as a public plaza and fountain within a minimum size of 2,500 square feet as a community gathering place. The open space area shall be centrally located so as to be conveniently accessed by all of the Village Center retail uses.

Design Guidelines. The following design guidelines are recommended:

1. The plaza should be delineated with special pavement treatment and street furniture. Such a plaza should be incorporated into the public right-of-way of Emmett Street.
2. Adjoining private development should be designed to compliment the public open space by orientation of store entrances, architectural features, and pedestrian access to the open space.
3. The public plaza should be made available for community events, musical entertainment, and other public announcement and entertainment uses.

3.5.5 Open Space Linkage Policy. A landscaped pedestrian walkway shall be provided to link the Village Center to the Twin Pines Park (See Urban Design Element).

3.5.6 If the Emmett House, located at 843 Ralston Avenue, is determined by the City Council to be of significant historic or architectural interest it shall be incorporated into Village Center Block #2 (the Ralston block). Should incorporation of the Emmett House into the Village Center not be feasible, then the Emmett House should be relocated elsewhere within the Downtown Area if feasible.